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Warren C. Ruppar President

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Testimony of the Independent Insurance Agents of Connecticut to the Insurance And Real Estate Committee In Favor of House Bill 5252 An Act Concerning Electronic Proof of Automobile Insurance Identification Cards

Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate committee, my name is Warren Ruppar and I am President of the Independent Insurance Agents of Connecticut. The Independent Insurance Agents of Connecticut is a trade association which has been located in Connecticut and has represented independent agents for 115 years. IIAC currently represents more than 400 member agencies and their associates as well as their 3600-plus employees. I come to you today to speak in favor of House Bill 5252.

House Bill 5252 will enable Connecticut drivers to provide proof of auto insurance "by display of electronic images on a cellular mobile telephone or other electronic device." Cell phones, iPads, and numerous other portable devices are used by the majority of Connecticut's population. The availability of app's by insurance companies to provide their customers with information on their policy or to report a claim is also an increasing component of the current technology. Connecticut drivers benefit from the use of this technology and the addition of electronic proof of insurance would be welcomed. It is also important to note that the Connecticut Insurance Department has indicated that they support the concept that is in House Bill 5252.

HB5252 will allow Connecticut to join the 30 states that have enacted legislation to allow the use of electronic proof of insurance. These state are Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

We urge the committee to support HB5252.